

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-39 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art disclosed by Wymore (US 6,515,586) fails to disclose "selecting the conductors of the first division of conductors and conductors of the second division of conductors" and "connecting an excitation signal to the selected first division of conductors and performing a scanning cycle of the selected divisions of the selected conductors when the excitation signal is connected to the first division of the selected conductors". While Wymore discloses a network of individually functioning sensors, Wymore fails to disclose any "selecting" step based on an excitation signal. The present invention discloses selecting the conductors that will form the first division and the second division such that the shape and size of the first and second divisions of conductors may be varied depending on the sensing desired.

Moreover, the prior art indicates that this particular method and arrangement to monitor localization, posture, movement or properties of one or several objects to be monitored in an environment to be monitored, is novel and has not been published or patented by other entities.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Mehmood whose telephone number is (571) 272.2976. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00am to 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Toan Pham, can be reached at (571) 272.2967. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273.8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jennifer Mehmood/
Primary Examiner
October 29, 2009